REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 10, 11, 13-17, 19-27, 32, 33 and 41-44 are pending. Of this Response, claims 1, 7, 16, 23, 27 and 41 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above amendments and following remarks are respectively requested.

Drawings

It is alleged that Figure 1 should be designated as "prior art." Applicant notes that Figure 1 is described in the specification as a "general computing system" of which the present invention may be implemented. Applicant notes that section 608.02(g) only requires designation of a legend "such as 'prior art.'" Therefore, Applicant has designated Figure 1 in a consistent manner to have the specification describes Figure 1.

Further, it is noted that Figure 1 only describes an environment in which the present invention may be implemented and does not describe any teaching related to the presently claimed invention. Thus, technically Figure 1 does not describe any type of prior art with respect to the claimed invention.

In view of the above, Applicant respectively submits that Figure 1 has been labeled consistent with the requirements under section 608.02(g). Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Prior Art Rejection

Claims 1-6, 10-11, 13-17, 19-22, 24-27, 32-33 and 41-44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Kitahara et al. (U.S. Patent Publication Application No. 2002/0089514), Shoji et al. (U.S. Patent Publication Application No. 2002/0032053), Microsoft Corp. ("Microsoft Flight Simulator

Information Manual and Flight Handbook") and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ("National Weather Service") and claims 7 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Kitahara et al., National Weather Service, Shoji et al. and Microsoft Flight Simulator Information Manual and Flight Handbook. These rejections are respectively traversed.

A. Rejections Are Improper

The rejections rely upon the "National Weather Service". The "National Weather Service" cannot be relied upon for any teaching with respect to the presently claimed invention without authentication of the date of the specific elements which it supposes to teach. Applicant respectfully submits that it cannot be discerned what is prior art with the National Weather Service web page printout because there's no date associated with a specific technology utilized at that web site and there's no specific teachings which subscribe the technologies utilized at the web site. The technology utilized by the National Weather Service and a description of said technology is important for determining whether it was prior art against the present application. The web page does not provide any authentication as to the date of the implementation corresponding to the relied upon technology used by the National Weather Service. Thus, this reference is not a valid reference against Applicant's claimed features. Accordingly, the rejections are improper and must be withdrawn.

B. Arguments

Although the rejections are currently improper as noted above, Applicant provides the following remarks with respect to the other references.

Applicant's claims 1, 7, 16, 23, 27 and 41 each refer to a user which can select a cell within any one of the plurality of multi-dimensional arrays in which the cell defines a specific area of space. Thus, a user can define attributes of weather associated with that specific area of space amongst each of the multi-dimensional arrays defining a different level within the atmosphere. The multi-dimensional arrays being positioned above or below one another based on the defined areas of space within each of the cells of each multi-dimensional array. Therefore, the weather conditions of each cell defined in the area of space can be specified pertaining to that area within the perceived atmosphere. This is not accomplished by the cited prior art.

Kitahara et al. teaches changing pixel colors of an image. At best, Kitahara et al. teachings can be applied to provide changing of a value of a part of an individual element of an image that makes up the whole image to change the color of that particular element of the image and nothing more. Kitahara et al. discloses nothing with regards to defining attributes of weather conditions or cells that correspond to areas of space associated with those attributes.

Further, Shoji et al. teaches allowing a user to implement generalized weather changes. Shoji et al. teachings do not allow a user to identify individual cells (areas of space) and quantify the weather associated therewith by using attribute information associated with different weather situations. In Shoji et al., weather conditions for localized areas of a grid are implemented by the computer based on the user defining a generalized feature of a grid map. For example, areas on the grid being land or sea or mountains, etc. Thus, combining Shoji et al.'s teachings with Kitahara et al.'s teachings does not lead one of ordinary skill to allow a user to define attributes of individual cells within a multi-dimensional array as claimed by Applicant. At best, one of ordinary skill would be able to change the pixel color arrangement of the

individual image displayed in Shoji et al.'s system based on Kitahara et al.'s teachings and not associated weather attributes within specific cells defining an area space of a multi-dimensional array.

Furthermore, Applicant claims a plurality of multi-dimensional arrays each having a plurality of cells where each cell in each array can be user defined using weather attributes. The Microsoft Flight Simulator Manual teaches user selection of two levels of clouds and storms within the clouds. The user section is general to the entire space within that level which limits the user's ability to define the weather in a specific defined area. While one can set the environment in an upper and base cloud, this does not represent a plurality of array of cells. Further, Microsoft Flight Simulator Manual doesn't disclose or teach that a plurality of arrays of cells is implemented. Thus, it does not disclose an array, let alone a plurality of multi-dimensional arrays. This version of Microsoft Flight Simulator Manual doesn't disclose this because it only allows generalized defining of weather by a user and not localized user definement to specific cells in a plurality of multi-dimensional arrays which overlap each other.

At best, Microsoft Flight Simulator Manual could be used to teach weather implemented at two levels, but these two levels do not teach a plurality of multi-dimensional arrays having a plurality of cells.

Furthermore, even if combined with Shoji et al.'s grid structure, neither Shoji et al., Microsoft Flight Simulator or Kitahara et al. teach or suggest user selection of specific cells within a multi-dimensional array in which multiple weather attributes can be user defined.

A combination of Kitahara et al., Shoji et al. and Microsoft Flight Simulator does not teach user defining of the cell in an array. Further, there is no teaching of a plurality of arrays which contain those plurality of cells.

Thus, for the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that Applicant's independent claims 1, 7, 16, 23, 27, 41 and the respect to dependent claims are distinguished from the cited art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For at least the reasons above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-7, 10, 11, 13-17, 19-27, 32, 33 and 41-44 are distinguished from the cited art. Favorable consideration and timely allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings, Reg. No. 48,917 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.147; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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